

Quality Matters Essential Standards

Course Overview and Introduction

- 1.1 Instructions make clear how to get started and where to find various course components.
- 1.2 Learners are introduced to the purpose and structure of the course.

Learning Objectives (Competencies)

- 2.1 The course learning objectives, or course/program competencies, describe outcomes that are measurable.
- 2.2 The module/unit-level learning objectives or competencies describe outcomes that are measurable and consistent with the course-level objectives or competencies.
- 2.3 Learning objectives or competencies are stated clearly, are written from the learner's perspective, and are prominently located in the course.
- 2.4 The relationship between learning objectives or competencies and learning activities is clearly stated.
- 2.5 The learning objectives or competencies are suited to the level of the course.

Assessment and Measurement

- 3.1 The assessments measure the achievement of the stated learning objectives or competencies.
- 3.2 The course grading policy is stated clearly at the beginning of the course.
- 3.3 Specific and descriptive criteria are provided for the evaluation of learners' work, and their connection to the course grading policy is clearly explained.

Instructional Materials

- 4.1 The instructional materials contribute to the achievement of the stated learning objectives or competencies.
- 4.2 The relationship between the use of instructional materials in the course and completing learning activities is clearly explained.

Learning Activities and Learner Interaction

- 5.1 The learning activities promote the achievement of the stated learning objectives or competencies.
- 5.2 Learning activities provide opportunities for interaction that support active learning.
- 5.3 The instructor's plan for interacting with learners during the course is clearly stated.

Course Technology

- 6.1 The tools used in the course support the learning objectives or competencies.
- 6.2 Course tools promote learner engagement and active learning.

Learner Support

- 7.1 The course instructions articulate or link to a clear description of the technical support offered and how to obtain it.
- 7.2 Course instructions articulate or link to the institution's accessibility policies and services.
- 7.3 Course instructions articulate or link to the institution's academic support services and resources that can help learners succeed in the course.

Accessibility and Usability

- 8.1 Course navigation facilitates ease of use.
- 8.2 The course design facilitates readability.
- 8.3 The course provides accessible text and images in files, documents, LMS pages, and web pages to meet the needs of diverse learners.